

moist bark appears to be the most favorable season for finding the larvæ. The writer would welcome the coöperation of entomologists and others in searching for these forms in different parts of the country. He will be pleased to determine specimens found under various conditions, make rearings therefrom if possible, and thus add to our knowledge of the subfamily Heteropezinæ, a group which should be fairly abundant in North America and one deserving careful study.—E. P. FELT.

**Miastor Larvæ in Connecticut.**—In connection with the preceding note by Dr. Felt it may be of interest to record that Mr. C. T. Brues and I found large numbers of *Miastor* larvæ at Colebrook, Litchfield County, Conn., June 8, 1911. These larvæ, many of which were in active pædogogenesis, were living in colonies under the bark of elm and maple stumps in a damp but open wood. The trees had been recently felled and there was considerable sap between the bark and wood. In the same locality I failed to find any of these larvæ during the last week of July and first week of September.—W. M. WHEELER.

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## PROCEEDINGS OF THE NEW YORK ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

MEETING OF TUESDAY, MAY 3, 1910.

Held at the American Museum of Natural History. President C. W. Leng in the chair with sixteen members present.

Reports were received from the Treasurer and the Curator.

Mr. Dow of the Field Committee reported that the Decoration Day and Fourth of July meetings were very nearly arranged for and would be reported upon at the next meeting.

Mr. Joutel exhibited living larvæ of *Thelydrius contractus* and stated that he had on a former occasion made four applications of bisulphide of carbon in order to kill one of them and had been unsuccessful. He demonstrated that by a liberal application of bisulphide of carbon none of the four larvæ was harmed. He remarked that the life cycle was apparently one year, but that they had, without food, lived for three or four years in the larval stage.

Mr. Schaeffer exhibited a number of new Carabidæ which he has been studying lately, the descriptions and notes of which will be published in the Bulletin of the Brooklyn Museum. He gave the distinguishing characters of most of the species and pointed out also some synonymy in the group. Among

he new species were several *Petrostichus*, *Lebia*, *Harpalus*, etc., and a new species of the strictly tropical genus *Inna* from Brownsville, Texas.

Professor H. E. Crampton referred to some of his former experiments in grafting of various Lepidoptera as unsuccessful since the adults of these grafts failed to mate. He spoke concerning the results of some work he had been carrying on for a number of years which dealt statistically with certain biological problems such as variation. Long series of measurements and observations had been made in the larval and pupal stages of some of the more common Bombycine moths to determine what bearing the relative length of certain structural parts and weight of the whole had to do with the character of the adult. Although the work was not yet completed he had determined that there was undoubted correlation in this respect, as shown by various statistical tables.

Dr. E. P. Felt spoke concerning "Some Interesting Observations on Cecidomyid Genera." Among other things he referred to the help he had obtained in visiting and studying various European collections of gall midges. He spoke of the new list of gall midges which he had prepared and mentioned the number of synonyms as somewhat diminished by his recent studies. In this list 129 genera were represented and the life histories of a large number had been successfully worked out.

Mr. Henry Bird in speaking of "New York City's Fifty Mile Faunal Zone as Relating to the Noctuid Genus *Papaipema*" exhibited a collection of most of the species to be found in the eastern part of the United States,—22 of which positively occur within the 50-mile zone, with 4 others likely to occur there. He spoke of the distinguishing characters of the genus which had been separated from the *Hydracia* by Professor J. B. Smith. He referred also to the habits of a number of the species. They are for the most part borers in the stems and roots of perennial plants. The larvæ are characteristically striped and difficult to breed as a whole because of the wide range of food plants necessary for rearing.

Mr. Davis exhibited several strainers which had proved very satisfactory for sifting.

The society adjourned.

#### MEETING OF TUESDAY, MAY 17, 1910.

Held at the American Museum of Natural History at 8.15 P.M. with President C. W. Leng in the chair and sixteen members present.

The Librarian, Mr. Schaeffer, read a list of exchanges recently received, as follows:

Verhandlungen d. k. k. zool. bot. Gesellsch. in Wien, LIX, No. 9.

Societas Entomologica, XXIV, Nos. 23, 24; XXV, No. 1.

Zeitschrift f. wiss. Insektenbiologie, VI, No. 3.

Entomologische Zeitschrift, XXIV, Nos. 1-4.

Canadian Entomologist, XLII, Nos. 4, 5.

Coleopterorum Catalogus, Parts 11-14.

Deutsche Entomol. Zeitschrift, 1910, No. 2.

Anales del Museo Nacional de Buenos Aires, Ser. 3, Vol. XII.

Bull. Buffalo Soc. Nat. Sci., IX, No. 3.

Catalogue of Nearctic Spiders by Nathan Banks.

New Hymenoptera from the Philippine Islands by J. C. Crawford.

Three New Genera and Species of Parasitic Hymenoptera by J. C. Crawford.

Stettiner Entomol. Zeitung, LXXI, No. 2.

Bull. de la Société Entomol. d'Égypte, 1909, No. 4.

Wiener Entomol. Zeitung, XXIX, No. 4.

The curator, Dr. Lutz, exhibited the cases holding 144 Schmitt boxes, prepared for the reception of the Hymenoptera and Diptera belonging to the local collection.

Mr. Olsen, of the field committee, reported on the arrangements for the Decoration Day excursion to Newfoundland, N. J.

On motion of Dr. Love it was voted to dispense with the meetings of the society during June.

Dr. Lutz on speaking concerning the results of the American Museum of Natural History Expedition to add material to the local collection, outlined the route thus far followed and compared the different localities visited. He discussed the characteristics of the faunal regions of New Jersey and gave it as his opinion that local conditions, soil, moisture, etc., would determine distribution within the state rather than topographical conditions.

Mr. Leng mentioned the using of a light to attract beetles along the muddy banks of the Passaic River. By this means he captured seventeen species, mostly of the genera *Platynus* and *Bembidium*.

Mr. Bischoff exhibited two parasites of the cockroach. He also mentioned examining ant hills near Newark, N. J., and the capture of some good beetles by tearing these to pieces.

Mr. Davis exhibited a specimen of *Largus succinctus* taken at Baldwin, Long Island, which appears to be a good record for so northern a locality. Mr. Davis also showed specimens of *Cicindela generosa* taken at Old Bridge, N. J., which showed some variation in their markings; also a series of *Brumus davisi* from Wyandach, L. I., Lakehurst, N. J., and Japank, L. I., showing considerable variation from the normal.

Mr. Leng stated that Casey was of the opinion that the species he had called *Brumus septentrionalis* var. *davisi* was new and should be called *Brumus davisi* Leng.

Mr. Southwick spoke of a new insect, a caterpillar, the moth of which he had not seen, affecting rhododendrons.

Mr. Engelhardt stated that from the character of the work it was probably a moth of the genus *Sesia* which had been destructive in a similar way in Prospect Park, Brooklyn.

Mr. Southwick mentioned that he had obtained a photograph of Dr. Zabriskie for the society.

Mr. Joutel exhibited a specimen of *Cylene robinia* captured about the

middle of May in the city. This is unusual as this species hatches in the late summer and autumn.

Mr. Schaeffer exhibited some Coleoptera which had been taken in Chokolosee, Fla., and obtained through Mr. Franck. Most of these had been introduced from Cuba. He also showed four good species of Coleoptera taken at Wyandach, L. I.

Mr. Leng stated that at a meeting of the Deutsche Ent. Gesellschaft, March 14, Schenkling gave some statistics as to the number of described Coleoptera. Linné in 1758 knew 574 species, in 1788, 4,000 species. Dejean possessed in 1830, 21,000 species, Gemminger and Harold listed 77,026 species. From the first ten installments of the new catalogue Schenkling figured that as 7,078 species therein named take the place of 2,718 listed by Gemminger and Harold, the total in completion of the new catalogue, may be 250,000. Gebien commenting on his statement said that in Tenebrionide the 4,200 species listed by Gemminger would grow to 146,000 species and he believed that only one-fourth of the species existing in nature would be covered even then. Ohaus stated that in the Rutelidæ the G. and H. numbers would be multiplied six or seven times.

The society adjourned.

#### MEETING OF TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1910.

Held at the American Museum of Natural History Tuesday at 8.15 P.M. Dr. E. B. Southwick was elected to preside as chairman in the absence of the president and vice-president. Twenty-two members were present.

Minutes of the meeting of May 17 were read and approved. The Treasurer, Mr. Davis, made a report in which he stated that he had found it necessary to transfer \$100 from the society's account to help out the JOURNAL account. He recommended that space be given in the JOURNAL for short notes, with the expectation that it might add to the popularity of the JOURNAL and thus increase the number of subscriptions.

The Librarian, Mr. Schaeffer, reported the receipt of the following exchanges:

Entomol. Zeitschrift, XXIV, Nos. 5-22.

Societas Entomologica XXV, Nos. 3, 4.

Zeitschrift f. wissenschaftliche Insektenbiologie, VI, 4-7.

Bull. de la Soc. Imper. des Naturalistes de Moscow, 1908, Nos. 1-4.

Verhandl. d. K. K. Zool. bot. Gesellschaft in Wien, LIX, No. X; LX, No. 12.

Mitteilungen d. schweizerischen Entomol. Gesell., XII, No. 1.

Bull. de la Soc. Entomol. d'Egypte, 1910, No. 1.

Canadian Entomologist, XLII, Nos. 6-9.

Coleopterorum Catalogus, Parts 15-19.

Tijdschrift voor Entomologie, 1910, Nos. 1, 2.

Fourth Ann. Rept. Ent. Soc. Ontario, 1909.

Deutsche Entomol. Zeitschrift, 1910, Nos. 3-6.

The N. Amer. Bees of the Genus *Nomia* by T. D. A. Cockerell.

Annales Soc. Ent. Belgique, LIII.

Rept. Ent. Dept. N. Jersey Agric. Coll. Exp. Sta. for 1909.

Descriptions of Some New Genera and Species of Lepidoptera from Mexico by Harrison G. Dyar.

Mittheilungen d. Zool. Mus. Berlin, IV, No. 3; V, No. 1.

Wiener Entomolog. Zeitung, XXIX, Nos. 5-6.

Entomologische Blätter, 1910, Nos. 1-8.

Revue Russe d'Entomol., IX, No. 4.

Bolletino Lab. Zool. d. R. Siculo Sup. d. Agri. Portici, III.

Dermoptera of the U. S. Nat. Museum by Malcolm Burr.

Studies of N. Amer. Geometrid Moths of the Genus *Pero* by J. A. Grossbeck.

Bull. 141 N. Y. State Museum.

Three New Genera of Myrmicine Ants from Tropical America, by W. M. Wheeler.

Catalogue of the Odonata of N. America. R. A. Muttkowski.

Berliner Entomol. Zeitschrift, LV, Nos. 1-2.

Proc. California Acad. Sci., 4th Ser., III, pp. 57-72.

Memoirs on the Coleoptera by Thos. L. Casey.

His request of authority to have bound Henshaw's Check List of Coleoptera and the new Catalogue of Odonata was granted.

The Curator, Dr. Lutz, reported that he had spent a considerable part of the summer collecting in the field and had obtained something like 20,000 specimens of insects for the local collection, among which were many duplicates. Most of the material had been mounted and the remainder would soon be ready for exhibition. The Museum had added to the collection of Noctuidæ by purchase and Mr. John Grossbeck had donated to the local collection 300 specimens of mosquitoes representing the majority of the species to be obtained in the vicinity of New York.

Mr. Angell presented to the local collection two or three hundred specimens of Coleoptera taken along the beach at Lavalette, N. J., during the summer.

The Vice-President Mr. Osburn took the chair.

The Secretary, Mr. Barber, proposed as an active member, Mr. Carlo Zeimet, 170 William Street.

In a discussion of Mr. Davis's suggestion that space in the JOURNAL be given to short notes, several members expressed themselves pleased with the idea and the matter was referred to the Publication Committee for action.

As no formal program had been arranged the Vice-President called upon the different members to give an account of their summer's collecting experiences.

Mr. Wheat during the early summer had found a peculiar beetle in his study which he placed in a vial. Upon examining the insect a month later he found it still alive and dropped it in a cyanide bottle in which it lived for

several hours. He thought the beetle came out of an oak desk in which he had noticed a recent burrowing. The desk has been in his possession for fifteen years and his father had owned the desk for five years before him. Mr. Wheat inquired if it was possible for the larva or beetle to remain that length of time alive in the wood. Mr. Schaeffer replied that he did not think it possible.

Mr. Schaeffer exhibited a specimen of a wasp showing a *Stylops* clinging to the abdomen; a species of *Neoclytus* new to the United States, found alive in Mr. Franck's office; a lead pipe burrowed into by a beetle, *Dermestes frischii*, which was also shown. He reported that Mr. Schont had collected a very rare beetle during the past summer at Huntington, Long Island, *Elytroleptus floridanus*.

Mr. Davis stated that he had visited Sandy Hook to collect insects, having obtained a permit. He gave a description of the trees and general character of the country, and pronounced it an excellent collecting place. He showed a collection of insects representing all orders and referred particularly to those which were uncommon in this region.

Mr. Pollard exhibited a number of *Catocala* moths to show how successful one may be in sugaring for these, and two large Bombycine moths which he had bred from the pupæ. He remarked that all of his collecting had been done locally.

Mr. Groth said that most of his collecting had been done in his back yard with rather poor results, owing to the dry spell. He had particularly noticed that the spiders were uncommonly numerous probably on account of the drouth.

Mr. Hallinan exhibited some Panama beetles. He had collected some about Erie, Pa. He also noticed during the past summer that the potato beetles had turned their attention to the egg plants in preference to the potato and had done considerable damage. He spoke of the seriousness of the blight in Northwestern Pennsylvania. The San José scale which was abundant there, attacked all other fruit trees except the sour cherries.

Mr. Engelhardt exhibited a branch of *Rhododendron* which he had obtained in Prospect Park, showing the workings of *Sesia rhododendri* described by Mr. Beutenmuller. He remarked that the woodpeckers in searching for the caterpillars of the *Sesia* did considerable damage to the plant. He recommended the use of an application of tar in June as a possible prevention to the emergence of the moths. Specimens of the adult insects and larvæ were shown.

Mr. Shoemaker spent three weeks in Washington, D. C., and had made a dozen or more trips to various points on Long Island with good results.

Mr. Sherman collected also near Washington and with the aid of Mr. Schwarz and Mr. Barber had been introduced to some good collecting territory. He gave a brief description of the locality.

Dr. Southwick had been engaged in combating insects in the City Parks which had kept him busy, but he had continued to add to his collection of food plants of insects, which he offered to donate to the society, if it could

be properly cared for in the Museum. On motion of Mr. Dickerson the thanks of the society were given to Dr. Southwick for the gift.

Mr. Dickerson exhibited a specimen of *Leptura bifora* which he had taken at Brookfield, Conn.

Mr. Dickerson remarked that the San José scale was not on the decrease according to report. He spoke also concerning the seriousness of the depredations of the elm leaf beetle and the problem of fighting it.

Mr. Angell had collected many Coleoptera along the beach at Lavalette, N. J. While walking along the shore he had seen many thousand specimens of *Harpalus caliginosus* coming down to the drift line in search of the washed up insects which he saw them seize and devour.

Mr. Comstock stated that he had specialized this summer in back yard collecting and had seen 18 species of butterflies in his yard in Newark.

Mr. Osburn had gone to Europe expecting after completing his work at the Naples Station to do some collecting, but was unexpectedly called home and had only a short collecting trip to the Island of Capri which he briefly described.

Society adjourned.

H. G. BARBER,  
*Secretary.*